

PUBLIC LIBRARY PLANS.

THE GREAT BUILDING WHICH IS TO ARISE ON THE RESERVOIR SITE.

CARRERE & HASTINGS HAVE CHOSEN THE RENAISSANCE STYLE FOR THEIR DESIGN—AD-MIRABLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CARRYING OUT THE PURPOSES OF THE STRUCTURE—HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTION.

The completion of the new public library, the plans for which have been accepted by the trustees of the New-York Public Library from Carrere & Hastings, will bring together under one

sand volumes. The third wing was erected in 1881 by John Jacob Astor, a grandson of the founder, who gave to the work a sum of money exceeding \$800,000. At the present time the Astor Library contains more than a quarter of a million bound volumes and more than fifty thousand pamphlets. It has more than fifteen thousand readers each year.

JAMES LENOX'S TREASURES.

The Lenox Library, whose building stands in Fifth-ave., between Seventieth and Seventy-first sts., has been described as the library of a bibliophile made public. It was given to the city in 1870 by James Lenox, a retired merchant who loved books above most things else on earth. The gift created great surprise among all who knew the giver and his peculiarities. Previous to giving his library to the city, its owner had been exceedingly jealous of his rare

of their design, which was chosen by the jury selected for that purpose as the best of all the eighty-eight designs submitted to them for examination. This statement reads as follows: "The greatest projection of the main facade of the building is seventy-five feet back of the Fifth-ave. building line. It is intended to treat this seventy-five feet of foreground, 455 feet long, as a terrace or esplanade, and in a formal way as a grand approach to the main entrance. At both ends are fountains, groups of figures or monuments, to be designed in character with a building devoted to library purposes. The level of this terrace will be about half-way between the level of the main floor of the library building and the Fifth-ave. sidewalk, as shown on the plans.

"Immediately upon entering the building, there will be a large monumental hallway, 80 feet long and 40 feet wide, going through two stories. The ceilings are vaulted with stone, and stone staircases at both ends, twelve feet wide, ascend one flight to the main hallway on the second floor; and from there, crossing this hallway, another flight of stairs leads to the third floor, arriving directly at the entrance to the great reading-rooms.

"The main entrance of the three great arches, each 35 feet high and 15 feet wide, with deep recesses, like three great triumphal arches, form the main entrance to this great vestibule or hallway. The same arches, as shown in the facade, go around all four sides of this hallway. On the west side there are balconies from the second floor. Between the courtyards, and centering with the main axis of this great hallway, is the main exhibition-room, which is to be devoted to the exhibition of bookbinding and ornamental book covers, both of historic and artistic interest.

"Flanking the main central motive in elevation are two very large niches, with fountains and allegorical figures, possibly representing science and art.

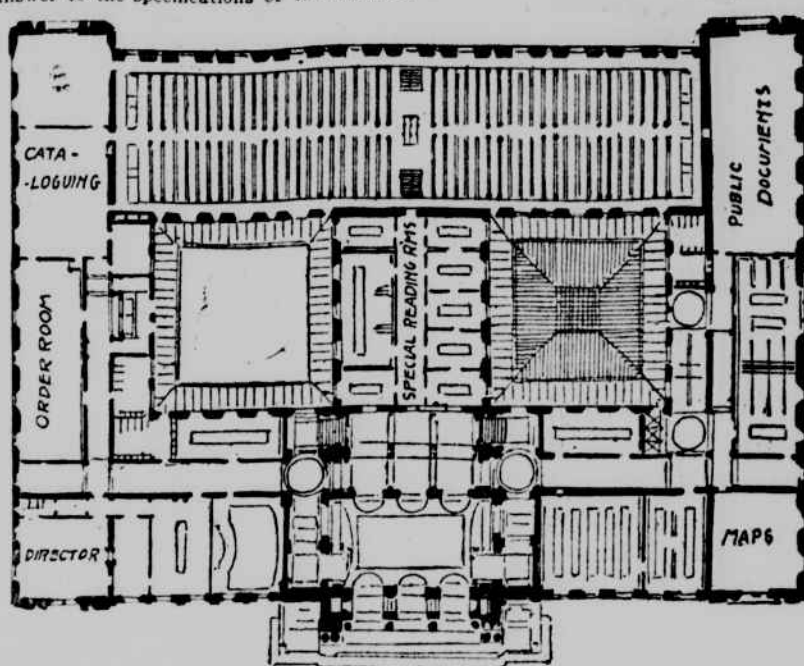
THE NORTH SIDE.

"On Forty-second-st., at the centre of this

omitted, and probably replaced by lower monuments and groups of statuary."

A WIDE COMPETITION.

The competition for the award was a spirited one. There were eighty-eight plans submitted in answer to the specifications of the trustees,



PLAN OF THE SECOND FLOOR.

which were prepared with great care and after a close study of the conditions and consideration of the most desirable features. Dr. John S. Billings, director of the library, was sent to Europe to examine the libraries there and to select their best features for incorporation in the New-York building, and the specifications were submitted to ninety-one architects before they were given to the contestants to work upon.

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DR. EVANS AND GUTTA-PERCHA.

SOME NEW STORIES ABOUT THE LATE AMERICAN DENTIST TOLD BY AN INTIMATE FRIEND.

George F. Kunz, of Tiffany's, who was a close friend of the late Dr. Thomas W. Evans, the American dentist, who recently died in Paris, gave to a Tribune reporter yesterday some interesting and hitherto unpublished details of Dr. Evans's life. Dr. Evans, said Mr. Kunz, was, when a youth, much impressed with the example of Benjamin Franklin, whose life he read. He attended the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, and the directors gave him, on his leaving, advice which he never forgot. It was, "Learn to do one thing better than anybody else." When he left the institute Dr. Evans made a trip through adjacent counties in Pennsylvania, filling and pulling out teeth. He would often fill three or four teeth free of charge in return for the privilege of pulling out the worst tooth after it was filled, as a specimen of his work.

Before Dr. Evans went to Paris he had for some time felt the want of a proper substance to use for filling teeth. This led him to make experiments with a view to hardening India rubber, and the result of these experiments was Dr. Evans's discovery of gutta-percha. It occurred to him to take sulphur, mix it with India rubber, and then add the mixture. This, he thought, would give him a substance of the color and hardness of natural teeth.

In Paris he filled the teeth of an American, to whom he sold the recipe for his experiment. He showed him a cane head and a plate for artificial teeth made out of the substance that he had made. Soon afterward gutta-percha, which is made by combining sulphur and India rubber, was patented in the United States, but Dr. Evans always declared that he was the original discoverer of it.

In 1880 Mr. Kunz was in Paris, and tried to prevail on Dr. Evans to send the cane head and the plate about its production to the United States Museum, so that he might obtain the credit of the discovery. Dr. Evans said that on his next visit to America he would present the facts personally, but, as it happened, when he came here again for the last time he never paid this country it was to bury his wife, and his discovery was overlooked.

Dr. Evans, it will be remembered, made the silver tube which was the means of prolonging the life of the late Emperor Frederick of Germany for some time after the operation of tracheotomy. Dr. Evans said that when the operation was performed he stayed up all night and made the tube out of a French frame piece with a hammer he happened to have with him.

In Dr. Evans, Mr. Kunz said, Americans have lost one of the most cordial and powerful friends they had with the manager of the French exhibitions. He was able to do a great deal for American exhibitors at former exhibitions at Paris, and the loss of his help and influence was keenly felt by those who exhibit at the exposition of 1900.

Dr. Evans probably knew more about the inner life of the English royal family than any other man in Europe outside of royalties. On one occasion he was playing billiards with an English nobleman and the Prince of Wales was looking on. Speaking to Dr. Evans, his opponent remarked, "You ought to write a book about the royal family. Nobody knows as much about it as you." The Prince heard the remark, and observed, "Yes, but that's the very reason why Dr. Evans would not write the book. He meant to do it, but he was too busy to do it."

Dr. Evans's house in Paris was full of gifts from royal personages. With the exception of two other well-known men, one of whom is Bismarck, he possessed the largest number of personal decorations of any one in Europe. He had sixty-three orders of English, German, French, Russian and other countries.

A BRIGHT BOY SWINDLER HELD. Twelve-year-old James McCann, of No. 34 Third-ave., was arraigned in the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday for fraudulently collecting money in the name of charity. He is a bright, intelligent-looking child, and the son of respectable people. For the last year, according to the Gerry Society agents, he has been collecting money, ostensibly for St. Bonet's Home for Colored Children, in Bleecker-st. On Friday night Detective Forgie, of the Fifth Avenue Hotel, found the lad on the second floor going from room to room telling how charitable-minded people had given him money for the home. The boy had such an open, frank face that he was readily believed, and one guest at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night, but at that time was allowed to go free with a warning. The lad admits he spent the money collected for candy. He was remanded yesterday for examination.

CHIEF BONNER DISCIPLINES FIREMEN. Commissioner Sheffield, Chief Bonner and Engineer Parsons, of the Fire Department, left the city yesterday for Milwaukee, Cleveland and other Western cities to study the auxiliary fire-extinguishing systems of those places and report their recommendations. Before leaving the Chief made these assignments for the new assistant foremen: W. J. Duffy to Engine No. 13, E. T. Galloway to Engine No. 10, J. F. Higgins to Engine No. 12, M. Coleman to Hook and Ladder No. 12, J. F. King to Hook and Ladder No. 1, Joseph Crawley to Engine No. 2, Harry Hawke to Engine No. 16, W. E. Lawrence to Engine No. 30, P. J. Graham to Engine No. 35, W. J. Wilson to Hook and Ladder No. 8, A. O'Connor to Engine No. 19, Howie to Engine No. 21, John Walker to Engine No. 24, George H. Winters to Engine No. 17, John P. Kieran to Engine No. 3, Charles Sheridan to Engine No. 33, James Malone to Engine No. 17, John P. Kieran to Engine No. 3. The Chief also made a number of transfers of engineers and firemen. The transfers have occasioned considerable feeling among the men, as many have been sent miles away from their homes. Chief Bonner said that the transfers were made to improve the discipline of the force.

ALLEGED FIREBOMB TO BE TRIED. Assistant District-Attorney Miliken, in the Court of General Sessions, will next week try the case of Robert L. Klune, a clerk, who lived at No. 282 West One-hundred-and-fourteenth-st., but who is now in the Tombs charged with arson. Fire Marshal Mitchell, who will be one of the principal witnesses against Klune, asserts that the man is connected with a gang of letter-box firebugs, who operated in Harlem last fall. The specific charge against Klune is that on September 15 last he set fire to a flat at No. 254 West One-hundred-and-fiftieth-st. The charge also includes a number of transfers of engineers and firemen. The transfers have occasioned considerable feeling among the men, as many have been sent miles away from their homes. Chief Bonner said that the transfers were made to improve the discipline of the force.

CHILDREN'S WARD THE BENEFICIARY. A matinee musical, under the auspices of Victor Harris, will be held on Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, in the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf-Astoria, for the endowment of a bed in the Children's Ward of the Post-Graduate Hospital. The artists who will assist are Miss Lillian Blauvelt, Miss Marquette Hall, Francis Fisher Powers, Leo Stern, David Mannes and E. C. Helknap.

Among the patronesses are Mrs. George F. Baker, Mrs. C. Ledyard Blair, Miss Callender, Mrs. William G. Davies, Miss de Forest, Mrs. Charles F. Foote, Mrs. Laurence Burton, Mrs. A. D. Julliard, Mrs. Goodhue Livingston, Mrs. Frederick Roosevelt, Mrs. Henry C. Valentine and Mrs. Edward Winslow. Tickets are \$1, and are on sale at the Waldorf or at the door.

REMARKABLE SUCCESS OF THE FIRM. Carrere & Hastings, whose plans for the new library have been accepted, have been remarkably successful in open competitions of late. Almost simultaneously with the announcement of their success in the library contest came the selection of their plans for the new building of the National Academy of Design. This exploit is unique in the history of American architecture. Mr. Carrere and Mr. Hastings have been in partnership since 1885. The earliest achievement was the erection of two hotels at St. Augustine, Fla., the Ponce de Leon and the Alcazar, which attracted much attention and many favorable comments. John M. Carrere

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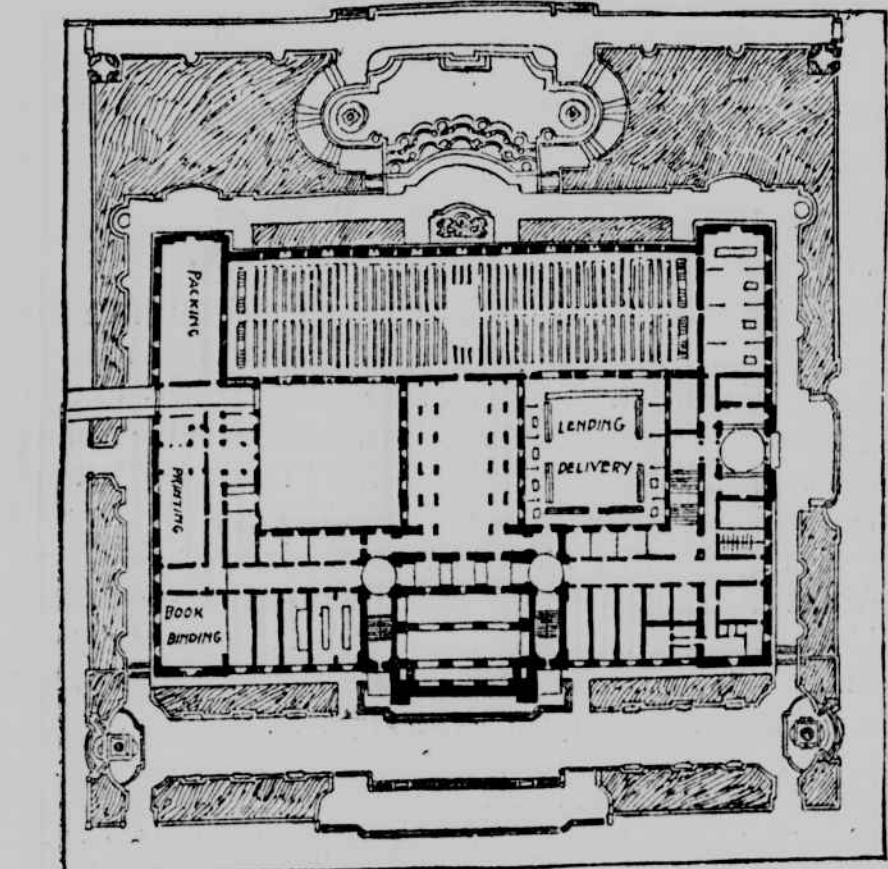
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PLAN OF THE BASEMENT.

broad roof all the treasures of the Astor Library, in Lafayette Place, and the Lenox Library, in Fifth-ave., between Seventieth and Seventy-first sts., together with the augmentations derived from that part of the Tilden estate which finally found its way to the uses for which it was intended. The history of the New-York Public Library has been in many respects a peculiar one. The new building, whose erection upon the site of the Bryant Park reservoir is now assured, will be the result of a conviction, that the public interests would be better served if all the library possessions were united, and all their facilities centralized and concentrated. Now the Board of Aldermen has granted the site and authorized the destruction of the reservoir; the Legislature has authorized the city to bond itself for \$2,500,000 to pay for the building and its equipment; the work of removing the reservoir will soon begin, and the erection of the library build-

property, and few were permitted to see it, and even fewer to use it. Mr. Lenox even went so far as to forbid Prescott, the historian, examining the rare Mexican manuscripts in his possession. But suddenly, without warning, he went to the other extreme and transferred the collection bodily to the city of New-York, giving at the same time a fund for the erection of the present building and for the maintenance of the library. The Lenox Library was incorporated in 1870, and five years later the building that now shelters it was opened to the public. It contains more than seventy thousand volumes, many of them among the rarest and most ancient in the world. It is especially valuable for the purposes of historians, scholars and antiquarians.

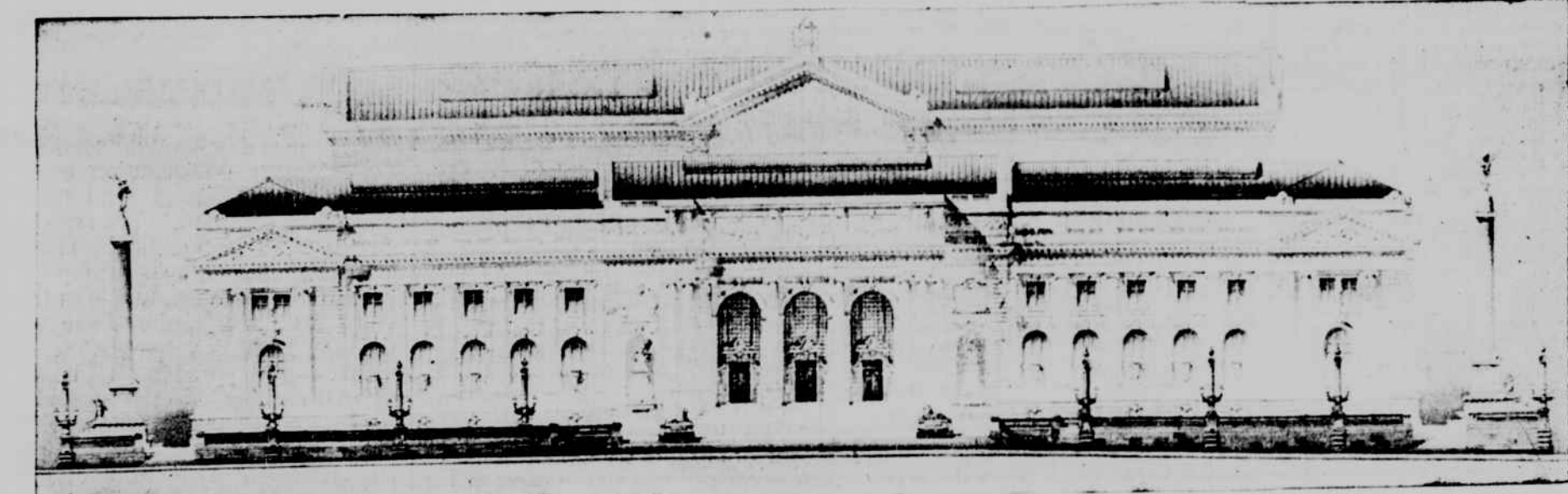
The decision to erect the new building on the site of the Bryant Park Reservoir was not made without much deliberation and thought, but once that determination had been reached the



PLAN OF THE THIRD FLOOR.

facade, is another important entrance to the building, only a few steps above the sidewalk at that point, entering at the basement level. This large vestibule goes through the basement and the first story, and makes a direct approach to the lending and delivery rooms, occupying

Twelve designs were chosen from the eighty-eight in the first contest, and the firms who submitted those will receive \$100 each. From these six were chosen, and the firms submitting these will receive \$800 each. For the final competition the names of several architects who had not already competed were added. The final



FIFTH AVENUE ELEVATION OF THE NEW-YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.

ing will be started as soon as the last stone of the reservoir disappears. The work is to be carried on upon such a large scale, however, that it is thought it will be at least three years from the time work is started before the new building will be ready for the use of the public. The Astor Library, which may be called the cornerstone of the New-York Public Library,

preliminary work of securing the necessary legislation was pushed forward rapidly. Not long after the Board of Aldermen had sanctioned the use of the proposed site, the Legislature passed a bill authorizing the city to bond itself for \$2,500,000 for the erection and equipment of the building. It is thought by many persons that the trustees were too modest in

one of two courts 85 feet square. This court will be covered with glass under the level of the sills of the first-story windows.

"There is a third less important entrance on Fortieth-st., communicating directly with stairs and elevators for the service of the building, all of this part of the building being devoted to practical purposes for the administration of the library. There will be in this part the business superintending, the receiving and checking rooms, the catalogue-room, accession-rooms, ordering, printing and binding rooms, etc.

"On the second floor, on the Fortieth-st. and Fifth-ave. corner, there will be a room for Dr. J. S. Billings, the director, and a room for the trustees; also a large lecture-room. The north side, on Forty-second-st., will be devoted mostly to special reading-rooms, and separate rooms for maps, public documents, newspapers, periodicals, music, etc. The top floor will be used for the Stewart collection, which must be kept in one room, and also for other picture galleries, special exhibitions, etc.

"In the rear of the building is the main stack-room, seven tiers of stacks with the main reading-rooms immediately over them, thus giving direct communication between the stacks and the reading-rooms. The location of the main reading-rooms on the top floor is a novel feature, but most satisfactory, as it insures perfect light, quiet and convenience. There will be about 140 feet of ground between the west elevation of the building and the present park. This will be treated in an architectural way, to be in character with the building.

THE ARCHITECTS' IDEA.

"In design, the endeavor has been to make the building very monumental in character, with classical proportions, and very big and impressive in scale. It will be built either in white marble or Indiana limestone. As a composition, the elevation expresses as carefully presented by the scheme of plan as the arrangement of the interior. The elevation, the arrangement of interior being made to express itself frankly on the exterior, the large pediments showing the main reading-rooms, the attic over the cornice indicating the picture galleries, and the windows—large in scale on the first floor, 12 feet wide—indicating the special reading-rooms. The side elevations, north and south, are simple in character, to express the business purpose to which this part of the building is devoted.

"The style of architecture is Renaissance; it is based upon classical principles, but modern in feeling, and it has been the purpose of the architects to express the spirit of our times, following and carrying out the historical continuity of style as in all of their past works without slavishly following any particular period, or without endeavoring to invent a new style. (See article on this subject by Thomas Hastings, in 'Harper's Weekly,' of May, 1894, and February, 1897.) It is safe to say that this is the general feeling among the ablest and most progressive men in the profession.

"The Ionic order in columns or pilasters is used in the main Fifth-ave. elevation. The columns are 46 feet in height, including the entablature. It is, of course, the intention of the architects to restudy the building in detail, especially as to foregrounds. The two columns or monuments on the front corners may be

contestants were Carrere & Hastings, Cyrus L. W. Edgell, J. H. Friedlander, C. C. Haight, Haydel, & Shepard, N. Hornbostel, G. E. Wood, G. C. Palmer, Howard & Cauldwell, McKim, Mead & White, Peabody & Stearns, George B. Post, W. Wheeler Smith and Whitney & Warren.

The jury to whom the plans in the final contest were submitted was made up of three architects: Walter Cook, of New-York; Edgar V. Seiler, of St. Paul, and Cass Gilbert, of Philadelphia; three trustees of the New-York Public Library, Alexander Matfield, John L. Codrington, and George L. Rice, and Dr. John S. Billings, director of the library. The jury selected three plans, those of Carrere & Hastings, Howard & Cauldwell and McKim, Mead & White, and the trustees, on November 11, chose Carrere & Hastings's design as the best of those three. The sanction of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to this selection was received last Wednesday.

A POPULAR LIBRARY, TRULY.

The new library will shelter at the start about 450,000 books and it will be open to the public every week day and evening and on Sundays from 1 in the afternoon until 9 in the evening. The city will annually provide funds for the care and maintenance of the library, and the Park Department will have charge of the walks, gardening and approaches of the building.

Dr. John S. Billings, director of the library, has expressed himself as favoring the establishment of some thirty or forty sub-stations of the library all over the city from the Yonkers line to the Battery, and he thinks that in time all the free lending libraries in the city will become allied with the New-York Public Library. It is possible that a part of the Lenox Library, but be retained as a sub-station of the library, but the Astor Library building will undoubtedly be sold. In case both buildings are sold only a part of the Lenox Library can be sold. It is thought that at least \$2,000,000 will be realized from them. The New-York Public Library will have resources of about \$200,000 a year, but Dr. Billings thinks it needs about \$500,000 a year for its uses. The director also sees no reason why the Brooklyn Library shall not in time become a part of the New-York system, as well as the New-York Free Circulating and the subscription libraries. He does not think the field of Aquilar libraries will be largely affected by the consolidation.

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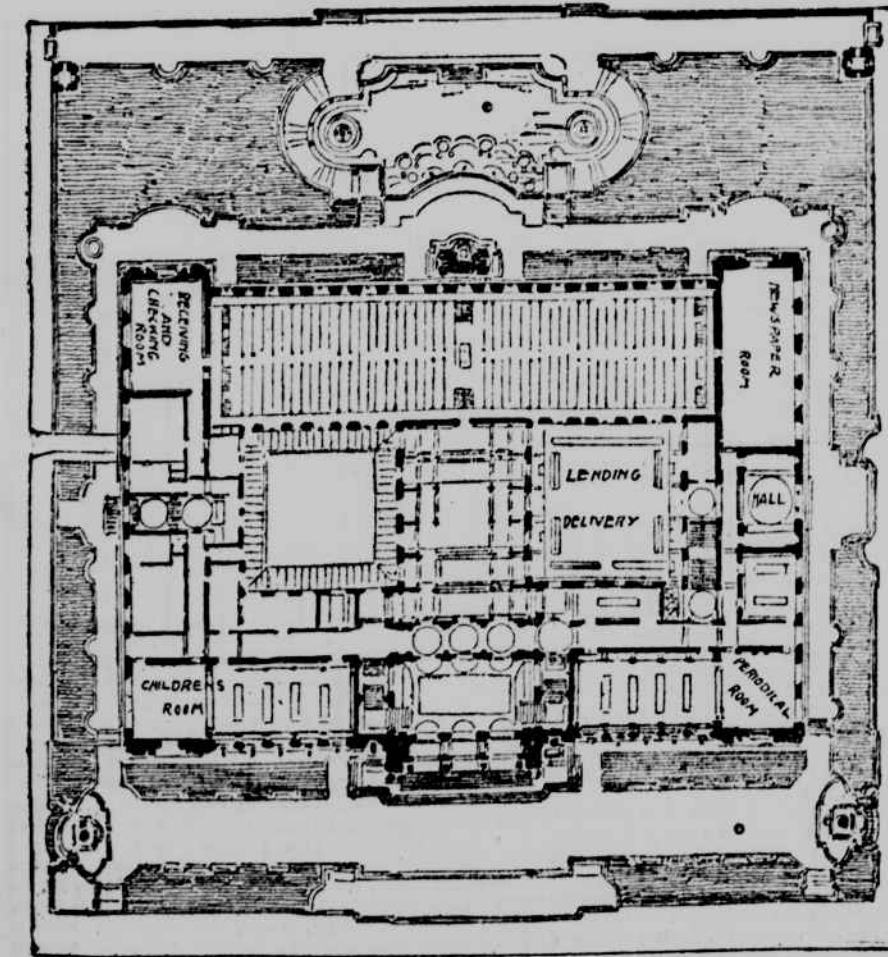
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PLAN OF THE FIRST FLOOR.

was suggested by Washington Irving to the first John Jacob Astor, who founded it by virtue of a codicil to his will, in which he left gifts amounting to \$400,000 for the project. The library was incorporated in 1849, and in 1854 the first hall, in Lafayette Place, was opened to the public, with twenty thousand volumes on its shelves. In 1859 William B. Astor built the second wing, at an expense of \$550,000, and in 1864 the library had grown to one hundred thou-

their demands, and that a greater sum should have been asked for, inasmuch as the building is intended to provide library facilities for the city for many years to come. Of the \$2,500,000 granted, only \$1,700,000 will be used in the construction of the building proper. The rest will pay for the heating, lighting and ventilating apparatus and other details of equipment.

Carrere & Hastings have issued a statement describing some of the more salient features

HAMILTON-NOYES CO.,

S.E. Cor. 23d St. & 6th Av.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Announcement is hereby made that the firm of Prichard & Hamilton Co. has been succeeded by a new corporation, to be known as HAMILTON-NOYES CO.

So far, however, from abating in the slightest degree the aggressive policy in regard to Leather Goods, &c., which has made this "The Greatest Trunk Corner in America," they have greatly increased its capacity, and will be able both to manufacture and sell Supplies for Travelers even cheaper than ever.

In Addition to Lines Hitherto Carried New Departments Have Been Established Under Such Conditions as, It Is Believed, Will Very Shortly Make This Corner as Celebrated for SILVERWARE, WATCHES and JEWELRY as It Has Heretofore Been for Leather Goods.

As an Earnest of Our Intentions, We Cordially Invite the Public—and Especially Just Now the Present-Buying Public—to Some of the

SPECIAL OFFERINGS THIS WEEK:



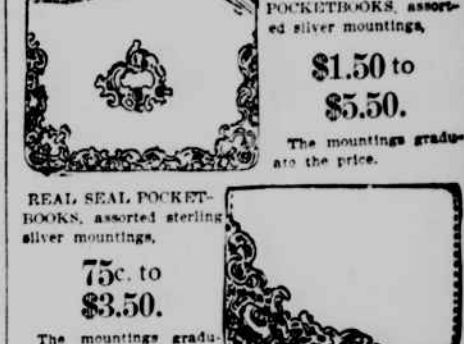
SMELLING BOTTLE, sterling silver, \$1.20. MIRROR, sterling silver, \$8.10. STERLING MOUNTED SALVE JAR, out glass, 60c.



REAL ALLIGATOR SKIN BAGS, all sizes, \$3.50 to \$7.50. REAL MONKEY SKIN POCKETBOOKS, assorted sterling silver corners, \$1.00 to \$7.50.



REAL ALLIGATOR SKIN POCKETBOOKS, assorted sterling silver corners, 75c. to \$4.50. The mountings graduate the price.



REAL SEAL POCKETBOOKS, assorted sterling silver mountings, \$1.50 to \$5.50. The mountings graduate the price.



REAL SEAL POCKETBOOKS, assorted sterling silver mountings, 75c. to \$3.50. The mountings graduate the price.



STERLING MOUNTED DRESSING BRUSH, extra fine quality bristles, 70c. STERLING HAIR MATCH SAFE, Sterling Silver, \$4.20. POCKET MATCH SAFE, Sterling Silver, \$2.10.

RUSSET LEATHER DRESS SUIT CASES, about two inches deeper than the regular suit case; extra heavy stock; lined with linen; short shirt inside. 22 in., \$6.50. 24 in., \$7.00. 26 in., \$7.50.

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